

# VIRGINIA OPIOID ABATEMENT AUTHORITY



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REGIONAL LISTENING  
SESSIONS

# History

- 2007 – Purdue Pharma executives convicted on criminal charges
- States and local governments begin litigating against prescription opioid manufacturers and companies involved in the marketing and distribution of prescription opioids
- 2017 – all litigation in Federal courts combined into one case.
- 2020 – negotiations with Distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen begin to take shape.
- 2021 – Virginia begins to prepare to be able to accept the settlement offers. General Assembly creates a statute that forms the Opioid Abatement Authority.
- May 2022 – Virginia's 13<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court issues an order that binds Virginia and the settling companies to the deal.

# *Code of Virginia*, Title 2.2, Chapter 22, Article 12

Virginia Code § 2.2-2366

Established by the General Assembly in 2021

*Created the Opioid Abatement Authority as an independent body whose purpose is to abate and remediate the opioid epidemic in the Commonwealth through financial support from the Fund, in the form of grants, donations, or other assistance, for efforts to treat, prevent, and reduce opioid use disorder and the misuse of opioids in the Commonwealth.*

# Composition of the OAA Board of Directors

## Virginia Code § 2.2-2367

- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Chair of Senate Committee on Finance and Appropriations, or his designee, and Chair of House Committee on Appropriations, or his designee
- Elected member of governing body of participating locality
- Representative of member of community services board serving urban region and another representative serving rural region
- One sheriff of participating locality
- One practicing county or city attorney of participating locality
- Two medical professionals
- One representative of addiction and recovery community.

# OAA Board of Directors

Senator Todd Pillion (Chair)

Dr. Sarah Melton (Vice Chair)

Jim Holland (Treasurer)

HHR Secretary John Littel

Delegate Jason Ballard

Dr. James Thompson – Master  
Center for Addiction Medicine

Tim Spencer – Roanoke City Attorney

Sharon Buckman – Piedmont CSB

Daryl Washington – Fairfax CSB

Sheriff Joe Baron – Norfolk City

Mike Tillem – Journey House Recovery

# Who Can Receive Distributions from the OAA?

Only state agencies and political subdivisions included in the Court order can receive distributions/grants.

- ✓ Participating Subdivisions - **Cities and Counties** that have signed the Virginia Settlement Memorandum of Understanding and chosen to participate in the applicable settlement as required by the settlement's terms.
- ✓ **State Agencies**

*Cities, Counties, and State Agencies can partner with various organizations to provide services*

# Distributors & Janssen Settlements

- Distributors will pay a maximum of \$21 billion (nationwide) over 18 years
  - Requires a minimum of 85% be used for opioid remediation
- J&J / Janssen will pay a maximum of \$5 billion (nationwide) over ten years
  - Requires a minimum of 86.5% be used for opioid remediation

***Any use of any funds for non-remediation must be reported by the city/county to the settlement administrator and to the defendant.***

# How can OAA funds be used?

## Virginia Code § 2.2-2370(A)

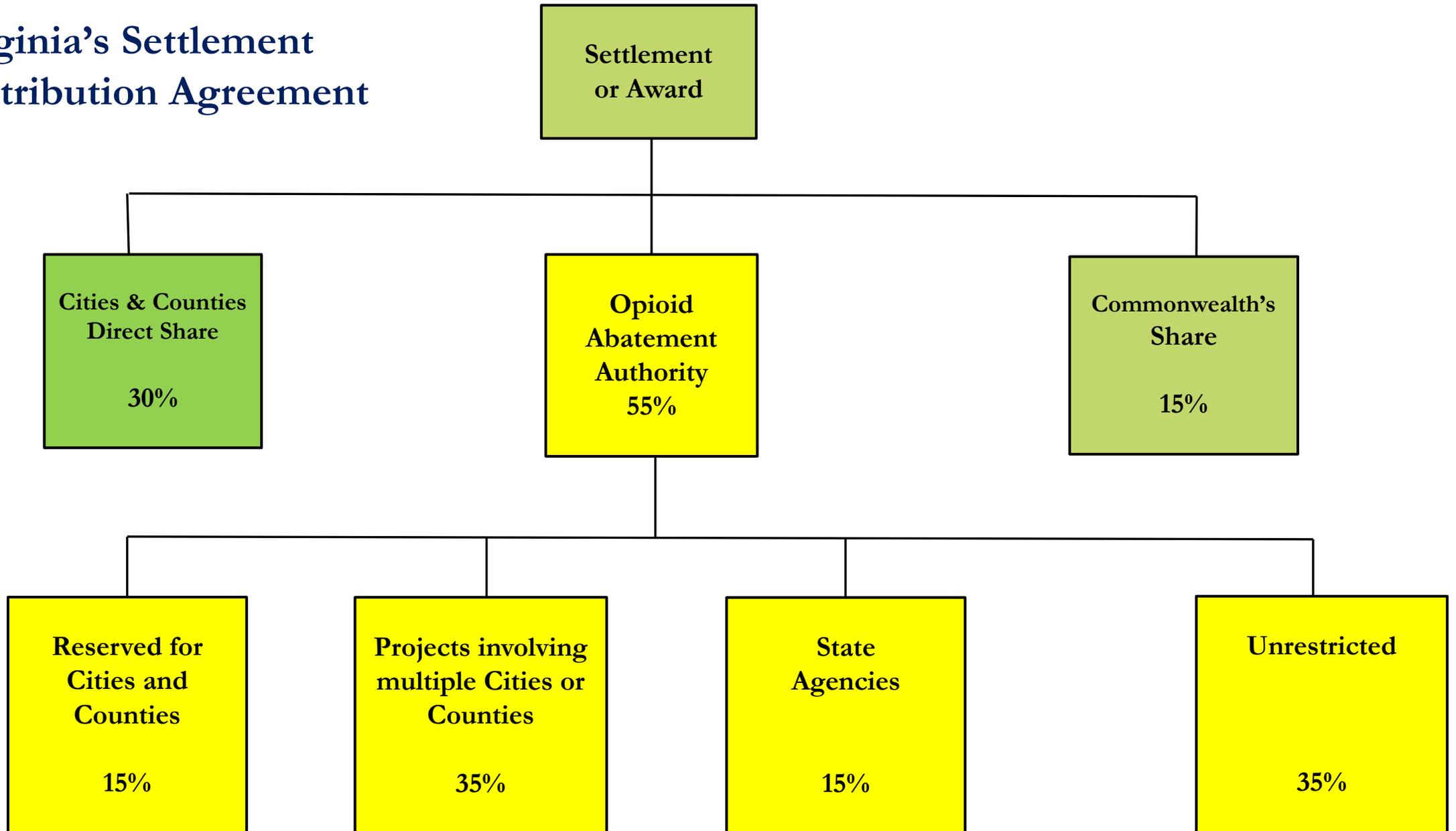
1. To treat, prevent, or reduce opioid use disorder or the misuse of opioids or otherwise abate or remediate the opioid epidemic;
2. Conducted or managed by any agency of the Commonwealth or participating locality;
3. Shall NOT be used by the recipient to supplant funding for an existing program or continue funding an existing program at its current amount of funding;
4. No indirect costs allowed;
5. Recipients shall provide the OAA information regarding the implementation of the effort and allow monitoring and review of the effort.

# Higher Priority Will be Given to:

## Virginia Code § 2.2-2370(B)

1. Programs or organizations with established record of success
2. Programs in communities with a high incidence of opioid use disorder or opioid death rate, relative to population
3. Programs in historically economically disadvantaged communities
4. Include a monetary match from or on behalf of the applicant, with higher priority given to an effort with a larger matching amount.

# Virginia's Settlement Distribution Agreement



# Next Steps

Grants for cities and counties will open on January 19, application period closes May 5.

OAA workshop in Richmond on Jan 19-20

Additional listening sessions and webinars being scheduled.  
Updated information to be posted at [www.voaa.us](http://www.voaa.us)



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